

ABSTRACT

1 A multi-computer instant capacity on demand (iCOD) system enables a customer
 2 to purchase computers with some assets inactive at a reduced price and to pool the total
 3 assets across all of the computers on the customers computer network. Each computer in
 4 the network transmits usage reports to a vendor database where the total number of
 5 inactive assets are added up by class of assets to determine if the customer has paid for all
 6 activated assets for all the computers on the network, rather than by individual computer.
 7 The customers may further organize computers into clusters, where the assets are audited
 8 by cluster rather than by individual computer or by the entire network. The network can
 9 have more than one cluster.

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